

I read recently in the Washington Post of Sinclair Broadcasting's decision to force their stations to air an anti-Kerry documentary days before the election. This is a clear example of the dangers of media consolidation.

Sinclair uses the public airwaves free of charge, and is obligated by law to serve the public interest. But large corporations that serve their own interests and particular political interests that favor them do not serve the public interest, which is access to unbiased information about issues that concern them. It is important that we see real people from our own communities and more substantive news about issues that matter.

Democracy can only thrive within an informed public. Sinclair's actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. They show why the license renewal process needs to be more rigorous, involving more than a returned postcard. Thank you.